

I CLAIM:

1. A method of hiding a message in an information carrier, the steps comprising:
 - a) encrypting a message with the use of a chaotic baker map;
 - b) choosing an information carrier comprising a set of pixels;
 - c) coding the shade or color level of said encrypted message using a set of pixels in said information carrier;

d) modifying said shade or color level of each of said pixels of said coded message by one of a

plurality of values; and

e) transmitting said modified message.

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2. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 1, wherein said message comprises text.

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3. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 1, wherein said message comprises an image.

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4. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 2, wherein said information carrier comprises a digital image.

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5. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 3, wherein said information carrier comprises a digital image.

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6. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 5, wherein said shade level of said encrypted message comprise numbers representative of shades of gray

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7. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 5, wherein said color level of said encrypted message comprise numbers representative of unique colors

8. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 3, wherein said shade level of said encrypted message comprise numbers representative of shades of gray.

9. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 6, wherein said information carrier image comprises $2N \times 2M$ pixels with 256 gray levels.

10. The method of hiding a message in an information carrier in accordance with claim 7, wherein said information carrier image comprises $2N \times 2M$ pixels with 256 colors.

5 11. A method of hiding a message in an information carrier, the steps comprising:

a) encrypting a message with the use of a scrambling function;

b) choosing an information carrier comprising a set of pixels;

c) coding the shade or color level of said encrypted message using a set of pixels in said information carrier;

10 d) modifying said shade or color level of each of said pixels of said coded message by one of a plurality of values; and

e) transmitting said modified message.